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C O N F I D E N T I A L ALMATY 001109

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR (DAS KENNEDY), EUR/CACEN (JMUDGE)

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KZ](#) [POLITICAL](#)

SUBJECT: KAZAKHSTAN: AMBASSADOR AND FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSS  
KYRGYZSTAN

REF: 3/24 ORDWAY-KENNEDY TELCON

Classified By: Ambassador John Ordway, reasons 1.4 (B) and (D).

11. (SBU) Foreign Minister Tokayev called Ambassador at 9:30 p.m. on March 24. Tokayev apologized for not being available to meet the Ambassador earlier, as he had requested, due to an extended meeting with President Nazarbayev to review the situation in Kyrgyzstan. The Foreign Minister said that following the meeting at the Presidential Administration, he had made a statement to the press. He provided the Ambassador with a quick summary. The main points were as follows:

-- Kazakhstan is concerned about developments in its close neighbor, and the consequences for the Kyrgyz people and Kazakhstan's compatriots there.

-- President Nazarbayev had earlier been in direct contact with President Akayev, as well as other leaders in the region, including Presidents Putin, Rahmonov, and Karimov. Kazakhstan had also had diplomatic contacts regarding the situation with the U.S., China, the EU and the OSCE, among others.

-- Kazakhstan called for adherence to the laws and Constitution of Kyrgyzstan, and the maintenance of order.

-- Events in Kyrgyzstan demonstrate that Kazakhstan's approach is correct, and has resulted in political stability and economic growth, with Kazakhstan becoming a leader in the region.

-- Kazakhstan is ready to be of assistance to Kyrgyzstan.

12. (SBU) The Ambassador, drawing on reftelcon, said that the U.S. was consulting with other countries in the region, and urging support for the OSCE's efforts to facilitate a Kyrgyz solution to the current situation. The U.S. had no pre-determined view of the outcome, which should be defined by the Kyrgyz themselves. Tokayev welcomed this position, which he said he would report to President Nazarbayev immediately. The Ambassador urged Tokayev to be in contact with the OSCE, and to support the efforts of Special Representative Piterle.

13. (SBU) Tokayev noted that Akayev had not resigned as President, and said that as a result there were serious legal issues. He speculated (albeit without much enthusiasm or conviction) about the possibility of Akayev having a future political role in Kyrgyzstan. Ambassador again stressed that the U.S. had no preconceived scenario for developments, since it was up to the Kyrgyz themselves to determine their immediate future. He added that it was important to support OSCE efforts to help the Kyrgyz people.

14. (C) Tokayev asked if the U.S. knew where Akayev was. The Ambassador said that all he could say was the reports Akayev had gone to Manas Air Base were incorrect. Tokayev responded that although Akayev had been heading for Russia, it was possible that the Russians had denied permission for his aircraft to land there. Embassy checked with MFA on March 25 regarding reports that Akayev's plane had landed in Kazakhstan, and were told that there was no official confirmation of these reports. The careful manner in which the MFA official worded this response may indicate that Akayev and his family, indeed, are in Kazakhstan, but the GOK is not yet ready officially to confirm their presence here.

15. (U) Dushanbe minimize considered.  
ORDWAY

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